

NEARING THE END.

Arguments Being Heard in the Trial of William Eaton.

NESBITT'S SPLENDID EFFORT

Last Night in Behalf of the State was Highly Complimented by all who Heard the Prosecutor—This Morning Arguments will be Resumed, and the Case will Likely Go to the Jury To-night. The Defendant was on the Stand Yesterday—His Story.

The trial of William Eaton in the criminal court, was renewed yesterday morning. The testimony concluded in the afternoon, and last night were heard the arguments of counsel. This morning from 9 to 12:30 o'clock, counsel for defense will hold the boards, and the state closes this afternoon.

The feature yesterday was the appearance on the stand of the defendant, William Eaton, who testified in his own behalf for several hours. He denied the allegations of Albert Grandison, the colored man employed by him at the Turner building, and an important witness for the state. Eaton was plainly nervous throughout the questioning of Mr. J. B. Sommerville, but answered all questions in a clear, low tone of voice.

The state brought out apparently damaging evidence against Eaton's methods of business, in reply to Mr. Sommerville, Eaton admitted that he sometimes went by the name of Charles Eaton, and that the goods which he swore in his past record belonged to him, did not, as he stated yesterday, but were the property of George W. Shippey, manager of a Chicago concern.

There were no breezy fits between opposing counsel, and the trial progressed very smoothly. The first witnesses in the morning were Lieutenant Dan Ingram and Captain Bennett, neither of whom gave new facts to the case. Clerk Welsberg, of the Seventh Avenue hotel, Pittsburgh, testified at the preliminary hearing regarding Eaton's stay at his hotel, and his testimony was read yesterday by Stenographer Walters, who took the preliminary proceedings.

The defense examined Mrs. Della Ingram of Benwood, and her bartender, James Canavan, and Patrick Herrington, of the same town, regarding Eaton's visit to Benwood about the time he is alleged to have been at his store, the day before the fire. All thought they saw Eaton there, but were not positive.

John Hull, colored, was called, but hadn't much to say. Then William Eaton took the witness stand. Col. Arnett asked him if he was guilty of setting fire to the Turner building, and witness answered, "not guilty."

He denied ever being in Huntington, and said previous to coming to Wheeling he had been in Chicago, and came to this city about February 7 or 8, 1897. He stopped at the Stamm house during his stay in Wheeling. He detailed the facts pertaining to his renting the building of Mr. Johnson, and his placing of insurance with the several companies.

His goods began to arrive the next day after he rented the store, coming from Huntington and Chicago. At the time of the fire there were goods waiting for him at the depot. He denied Witness Charnock's statement that he was in Wheeling about noon of the day of the fire; also denied meeting Grandison on Main street before the fire, and attempting to evade him. The day in question he was in Steubenville, Bellaire and Benwood, coming down from Pittsburgh early in the morning, and left Bellaire at 3:56 o'clock, p. m., for Pittsburgh. He reached Pittsburgh that night, and heard of the fire the next day (Thursday) morning, February 22. Next day he returned to Wheeling, and in company with Mr. Johnson, visited the building.

Eaton denied having the "pear-shaped objects" described by Grandison. Neither did he offer Grandison \$700 to keep him quiet. Denied placing boxes in front of the second story window, as to Grandison's story of seeing him on the street, he said he piled the fly paper loosely about so it could have a chance to dry, and was afraid the roof would leak and spoil the fly paper.

In the afternoon, When court opened in the afternoon, Mr. Sommerville, for the state, subjected Eaton to a rigid cross-examination. He began by asking witness if he knew Schmitt, a man supposed to have been associated with Eaton, but the latter stated that he met Schmitt in Wheeling, and that he knew him as one of the Central Trading Company, Huntington, and the only member of the company he knew. Schmitt stopped at the Howell House, and didn't accompany Eaton to Pittsburgh.

Witness didn't know Charles Eaton, an incorporator of the company. Charles Eaton was a name he sometimes went by. He denied being the Charles Eaton, of the Central Trading Company. Didn't know Matthew J. Guyon, Charles Alexander, R. A. Baker, of R. E. King, didn't know Schmitt, and what he met him in Wheeling. W. D. Johnson was the only man to whom Eaton made application for a building, but had been in Wheeling a week previous. Schmitt left the city during the week he closed the contract with Mr. Johnson; he closed the contract on Monday, the 15th.

Mr. Sommerville then questioned Eaton about keys for the back door, and Eaton maintained there had been a conversation between him and Mr. Johnson, regarding the keys, contrary to Mr. Johnson's testimony. Eaton admitted there was bolts on the back door, but he put on a lock and what he met him in Wheeling. Eaton said he didn't want his goods on the first floor, because he wanted the first floor clear, and he expected to be away at times, and didn't want his goods exposed. He had more goods to come from Huntington at the time of the fire, but didn't know what time they came. Was also expecting more fly paper from Shippey & Co., Chicago, but didn't remember the amount he was to get, probably eight or nine cases of the poisonous fly papers. Was not expecting goods from other than the two companies.

"Will you tell me, Mr. Eaton, asked Mr. Sommerville, "What you wanted with a three-story building, if you didn't expect any more goods?"

"The rent was low," replied Eaton, "and the store was in the business district."

"But you didn't make inquiries of other property owners,"

"Yes, may have, but I don't think so," witness replied.

Eaton later said that he was satisfied the rent was low, and thought he might have got along with a smaller store. In reply to Mr. Sommerville, he said it could not have been practicable to pack all his goods so as to put them all on one floor. The second day his goods began to arrive he began to remove them to the second floor, and kept this plan up. He worked on the Sunday before the fire a short while, part of forenoon and part of afternoon, about six hours altogether. He was working with the boxes, also working on Monday forenoon. He spent his time on the second floor.

The cans, fishing tackle, box scrapers, came from Huntington, as did the busts of Columbus and "little dogs." The only shipment from Chicago was the poisonous fly paper; it was shipped in wooden boxes. Eaton described Schmitt as being a trifle taller than he, light mustache, dark brown hair.

The Convict Photograph. Mr. Sommerville submitted a photograph of a smooth-shaven man, dressed in convict garb. He was No. 2291. Eaton said he wasn't sure that it was a picture of Schmitt.

Col. Arnett objected to having Eaton, Mr. William, or Charles Eaton. The objection was sustained. Eaton said he went to Pittsburgh Mon-

day preceding the fire, getting there in the evening, and stayed there until Wednesday morning, when he went to Steubenville, remaining there an hour or so, and then went down to Bellaire, crossing over to Benwood about noon. Took dinner at Benwood, and stayed an hour in the restaurant. Had stopped a few minutes in a saloon to get a cigar. His business in Benwood was to see if he could sell goods there, but there was high water there that day, and business was so disturbed he did not try to sell goods. He also wanted to find out the size of the town.

Tried to sell goods in Bellaire that day; called in a few drug stores, but did not find the proprietors. Couldn't give names of the druggists. Called on one store in Steubenville, but forgot the name of the storekeeper. He had samples of fly paper in his "grip," but left "grip" at Bellaire, and took over samples of fly paper, wrapped in a package, over to Benwood. He went back to Bellaire from Benwood, and went up to Pittsburgh that night. Was not in Wheeling that day and declared Mr. Rice and Albert Grandison to be mistaken.

Witness admitted the signature to a proof of his loss made in Chicago, as being his signature. He made claim for his first loss to Mr. Rodgers the morning after the fire. He then went back to Chicago and made affidavits of his loss. The statement of his loss, and claim against the Fire Association of Philadelphia, was read by Mr. Sommerville. Col. Arnett took hold of the witness, and offered for his inspection the photographs of the interior of the Turner building. He asked Eaton if he had moved any of the boxes the Sunday before the fire, and witness said he might have moved some from the front to the rear of the second floor. The goods were piled about a foot on the north side of the well hole. Witness expected consignments from Chicago from time to time, to sell on commission.

Mr. Sommerville again questioned Eaton about the photographs, and he answered that they represented the goods as he had left them. He asked witness if his answer was correct, did he know previously that Bellaire was on the river. Mr. Sommerville asked him why he told Col. Arnett that he expected goods from Chicago to sell on commission, and then in his claim for loss aware that the goods belonged only to William Eaton.

"Why did you swear in Chicago you owned the goods, and to-day swear you were only agent for goods?"

"I wanted to fill out the forms in Chicago," witness replied, "but the goods did not belong to me."

Witness got the requisite paper for his proof of loss from a stationary store in Chicago. Shippey was there at the time, and suggested the forms of application for insurance. A minute later witness stated that Shippey's suggestions helped him in his application for insurance in Wheeling. Witness did not know that George W. Shippey formerly lived in Wheeling, and conducted the Pittsburgh Suit Club.

Some discussion between the counsel resulted about George E. Shippey, son of George W. Shippey. Mr. Sommerville referring to the fact that the former had been indicted here, but the court ruled against this matter being brought up.

This closed Eaton's testimony, and Clerk Homer W. Reynolds, of the Stamm house, was called. He was not questioned much and nothing new was added.

Albert Grandison was the next witness. Another colored man named H. J. Williams was brought before him, and Grandison said he was acquainted with him slightly. Grandison denied telling Williams a week ago that he was getting paid whether he worked or not.

H. J. Williams then took the stand. In reply to Col. Arnett, he said Grandison said he was getting paid whether he worked or not. This answer was objected to as being immaterial, by Mr. Howard, but the court ruled otherwise. Williams said Grandison didn't state who was paying him.

Mr. Sommerville wanted Williams' testimony excluded, as the witness didn't testify that any one connected with the case paid Grandison for walking around.

Col. Arnett argued against the exclusion, and he was successful. Mr. Boyce asked for time until the defense secured a witness named Burke. Court refused to wait. Mr. Sommerville wanted the jury to inspect the Turner building, but Col. Arnett's objection prevented this move. This ended the testimony, and adjournment was taken at 5 o'clock, to hear the arguments of counsel.

THE ARGUMENTS BEGUN.

Prosecutor Nesbitt Makes a Masterly Plea to the Jury.

When court reconvened at 5 o'clock last night, for the opening of arguments in the Eaton case, the crowd was larger than at any time during the trial. Mr. Frank W. Nesbitt opened the case for the state and spoke for about an hour and a half, making a strong logical argument to prove Eaton's connection with the fire. He paid particular attention to Eaton's evidence yesterday and ridiculed it as contradicting that given by W. D. Johnson, and that of ex-Mayor B. F. Caldwell, regarding the value of Eaton's goods. Mr. Nesbitt said that the state's evidence throughout had been given by reputable and highly respected citizens.

He argued that Eaton had used false pretenses to get big insurance, and that the insurance men expected a fire the night before it came. Eaton's admission that he was in the building the Sunday preceding the fire for several hours and the following Monday morning, was conclusive, said Mr. Nesbitt, that he used that time to "arrange the boxes." And, continued Mr. Nesbitt, the defendant put the boxes, obtained from the Hub, across the front windows, while around the well hole and the stairway he placed the more inflammable fly papers.

Mr. Nesbitt maintained that Eaton was in Wheeling shortly after noon the day before the fire, and not in Bellaire, or Benwood. Eaton was in Pittsburgh in the morning and at night, but he was in Wheeling at noon, as was shown by the testimony of Messrs. Charnock and Rice.

Discussing the kind of goods Eaton had, Mr. Nesbitt said they were just the kind needed for the purpose. His goods were especially adapted for the three purposes needed. One purpose was to make a show after the fire, and this was done by the fireware and second purpose was to make a bulky appearance, this was done by the boxes; for the third purpose, to burn easily, the fly paper was just the thing.

Continuing, Mr. Nesbitt claimed Eaton had perjured himself in this trial and that the testimony of a perjured man could have no weight. He quoted a tribute to the witness, Albert Grandison, who had told the same story both at the preliminary hearing and trial, though the able counsel for the defense had put him through a fiery test. As to the motive, Mr. Nesbitt said one is surely shown in the case of Eaton, who was insured for \$7,500. He spoke in severe terms of the defendant, whose act in firing a block of buildings and exposing property and lives to destruction, merits a term of years in the penitentiary.

At the conclusion of Mr. Nesbitt's address, court was adjourned until 9 o'clock this morning, when Messrs. Arnett and Boyce for the defense, and Mr. Howard, for the state, will address the jury. The jury will probably have the case this afternoon or to-morrow.

"OUR little girl had diarrhoea in a very bad form. We tried everything we could think of, but without effect until we got Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry, which helped her right away." Mrs. Ann Borman, Verban, Sanilac Co., Mich.

CAPTAIN AGNEW

Says the Queen City is the Fastest Boat in America.

THE NEW PACKET WAS RECEIVED

With Enthusiasm at Parkersburg Yesterday Afternoon by 5,000 People—Her Reception All Along the River Has Been Warm—Passes Wheeling Early this Morning—Her Engines are Working Smooth—Reception at Sistersville.

PARKERSBURG, June 21. Captain John Crookard, Wheeling. The Queen City is the fastest boat in America. Passed here at 1 o'clock this afternoon; received by 5,000 people and bands of music. Will pass Wheeling early to-morrow morning.

R. L. AGNEW, Master. As will be seen from the copy of the telegram received by Captain John Crookard, of the wharfbot, yesterday afternoon, the new Pittsburgh and Cincinnati packet, Queen City, is the success that her builders and owners have declared she would be. It is unfortunate that she does not pass this port until early this morning. Had Capt. Agnew, pushed his boat along in the upper river and reached Wheeling last night, she should have been given a royal welcome. For Wheeling people showed a great interest in her yesterday, many inquiries being received at the wharfbot through the telephone.

It seems that the new boat was not let out between Parkersburg and Sistersville, for she did not leave the latter port until 10 o'clock last night, and can be expected to reach Wheeling about 3 or 4 o'clock this morning. At Sistersville about 2,000 people crowded on the packet, which laid at the wharf over an hour.

A number of Wheeling people went down the river yesterday afternoon and are returning on the big boat.

THE RIVER.

YESTERDAY'S DEPARTURES. Parkersburg, BEN HUR, 9 p. m. Sistersville, RUTH, 4 p. m. Clarington, LEROY, 3:30 p. m. Steubenville, T. M. HAYNE, 2:30 p. m.

BOATS LEAVING TO-DAY. Cincinnati, KEYSTONE STATE, 8 a. m. Parkersburg, ARGAND, 11 a. m. Matamoras, LEXINGTON, 11 a. m. Sistersville, RUTH, 3:30 p. m. Clarington, LEROY, 3:30 p. m. Steubenville, T. M. HAYNE, 2:30 p. m.

BOATS LEAVING TO-MORROW. Charleston, KANAWHA, 6:30 a. m. Pittsburgh, BEN HUR, 4 p. m. Clarington, LEROY, 3:30 p. m. Sistersville, RUTH, 3:30 p. m. Steubenville, T. M. HAYNE, 2:30 p. m. Pittsburgh, LORENA, midnight.

Along the Landing. The marks at 6 p. m., showed 6 feet 8 inches and rising. Weather, cloudy and warm.

River Telegrams. WARREN—River 1 of a foot. Weather clear and cool.

OIL CITY—River 10 inches and falling. Weather clear and cool.

GREENSBORO—River 5 feet 8 inches and rising. Weather fair and cool. The Adam Jacobs is due up and down on Tuesday.

PITTSBURGH—River 5 1/2 feet and falling at the dam. Clear and cool.

STEEBENVILLE—River 5 feet 8 inches and falling. Weather clear and warm. Passed down: The Ben Hur and Keystone State.

MARTIN'S FERRY.

Haps and Mishaps in the Thriving City Across the River.

The twenty-seventh annual convention of the Woman's Foreign Missionary society, of the Steubenville district East Ohio conference, will be held in the First Methodist Episcopal church, Martin's Ferry, next Monday and Tuesday. The programme will be as follows:

MONDAY—1:30 P. M. Hymn. Scripture Lesson—Mrs. R. S. Strahl, Dis. Prayer—Miss Hannah Bird. Anthem—Choir. Pastoral Greetings—Dr. J. W. Robins. "Whence, single can, \$1; six for \$5; 12 for \$10. Lady clerks in attendance. FREEMAN'S GLOBE TEA CO., 1033 Main St.

TUESDAY—3 A. M. Devotional Exercises—Wintersville Delegation. Bible Reading—H. S. Jackson, P. E. Organization and Appointment of Committees. Roll Call—Responded to by Scripture Quotation. Report of District Secretary and Treasurer. W. F. M. S.—Mrs. W. W. Heager. "What Shall We Give?"—Mrs. Tillie Miller.

TUESDAY—1:30 P. M. Musical—Choir. Minutes. Address—Rev. Dr. W. F. Oldham. Music. Collection. Doxology. Benediction.

Music will be under the direction of Martin's Ferry Choir. All officers and delegates who will be in the city will notify Mrs. Dr. J. W. Robins at once, that entertainment may be provided.

The funeral of the late Ernest C. Twedy yesterday morning was very largely attended. Rev. Dr. J. W. Robins, pastor of the M. E. church, of which the deceased was a member, officiated, and he was assisted by Rev. S. J. Boyle, of the Presbyterian church. The selections, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" and "Asleep in Jesus" were sung by Miss Carrie Crossley, Miss Carrie Coss and Myron E. Cole.

The interment was at Highland cemetery, at Mt. Pleasant, and the pall bearers were, Theo. Snodgrass, A. H. McGlen, C. H. Carpenter, E. K. Hoge, Dr. J. G. Carr and Harry Jump.

A large crowd witnessed the Old Maids Convention given at the opera house last night by the Young Ladies' society of the Presbyterian church. It was well presented. There was much laughter throughout, commencing at the very first and continuing until the close. The musical specialties were very good.

The costumes worn by the different characters were very quaint and well executed. The characters were in capable hands, and the performance was considered one of the best and most laughable ever put on by local talent. The society will, as a result, reap a neat sum.

At a largely attended meeting of the Y. P. U. at the Baptist church last night, the following officers were elected: President, Fred Gossett; vice president, Ross Hobbsack; recording secretary, Verban P. Rees; corresponding secretary, Miss Nellie Hobbsack; treasurer, Roland Bonar; organist, Miss Ethel Thomas.

Dr. and Mrs. B. O. Williams and Dr. and Mrs. A. W. Dover will attend the picnic of the Belmont County Medical society at Epworth Park to-day.

Miss Alice Edgerston, of St. Clairsville, and Miss May Sedgewick, of Mt. Hope, visited Mr. and Mrs. Fred K. Dixon yesterday.

A. W. Kerr, who has had considerable experience in the glass business, has been appointed receiver for the Union Glass Co., which is entirely solv-

ent and the affairs of the company will be closed up.

Meister's band was pleasantly entertained last night by Mr. and Mrs. Julius Humberburg at their home in the Fifth ward.

The Shakespearean Reading Circle will have a hay wagon party on Friday evening, going to some house in the country.

Mrs. C. L. Poorman, of Bellaire, and Mrs. Nettie Rankin, of Denver, Col., spent yesterday with Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Moore.

The Coshocton ball club, the manager of which is Brock Brown, of Martins Ferry, has lost only three games this season.

Dr. Daniel Cox is making a good fight for the nomination for treasurer at the Democratic convention at Bellaire to-day.

Carpenters are at work making a number of changes at the Cleveland & Pittsburgh passenger depot.

Mrs. Daniel Cox and daughter, Beulah, are visiting relatives at New Matamoras.

Mr. and Mrs. George Strain have returned from a visit with friends at Harrisville.

The Wheeling & Lake Erie railroad coal mines are getting ready to go on in full.

A. C. Smith has decided to locate in California on account of failing health.

The new crane at Spence, Boggs & Co.'s foundry will be put up to-day.

A basket ball club will probably be organized in Martins Ferry shortly.

Mrs. Robert Heslop and children will return from Allegheny, Pa., to-day.

Mrs. Wm. H. Beall went to New Athens yesterday to visit her brother.

Mr. and Mrs. George Spence are the happy parents of a girl baby.

S. R. Williams, of Lima, is calling on old friends in Martins Ferry.

There was a heavy frost in the country yesterday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen McKee have returned from Zanewille.

W. L. Noble returned from Clayville last evening.

O. G. Weirich has returned from Guernsey county.

Claire Chamberlain has returned from Akron.

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George Schaff, cigar maker at Marsh & Sons, received \$50 in cash with his purchases; Rev. A. Moor, D. D., presiding elder Wheeling District Conference, M. E. church, got a genuine solitaire diamond ring, solid gold setting; Mrs. E. Hand, Jefferson avenue, Monroeville, received a cluster diamond finger ring, with her tea; Mrs. Rev. Robinson, visiting city, received with her orders a solid gold lace pin, set with seven genuine diamonds; H. M. Williams, Monroe street, Martins Ferry, got a gent's hunting case, full-jeweled American watch with his purchases; Mrs. Gen. R. S. Northcott, Clarksville, W. Va., with her order got a genuine cluster diamond ring; P. Kennedy, near Wheeling Park, received with his purchases a gent's seal ring; Martin Dudley, moulder, got \$55 in cash; Mrs. J. M. Jenkins, Bellaire, Ohio, got a ladies' hunting case watch, of very latest pattern.

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